generally of an inexpensive kind, or else the damage was of a minor nature.

The tornado travelled a distance of about 40 miles, and its track was about one-fourth of a mile wide. No deaths or serious injuries resulted.

DESTRUCTIVE STORMS IN MICHIGAN.

By C. F. Schneider, Section Director. Dated May 29, 1909.

During the afternoon of Saturday, May 15, 1909, thunderstorms with high winds were general throughout southern Michigan, and a large amount of damage was done to buildings and trees. About 3:15 p. m. a destructive windstorm occurred at Fowlerville, Livingston County, and over the surrounding country for a distance of 2 to 4 miles. It is estimated that about two hundred and fifty buildings were more or less damaged, many being unroofed and several demolished. The total damage is estimated at about \$50,000.

Three persons were injured by flying débris or being thrown to the ground by the wind, and as a result of fright one woman died from heart disease. About twenty-five families were rendered homeless.

The path of greatest destruction was about six rods wide and extended from southwest to northeast. One observer reports that the storm had a well defined funnel-shaped cloud, but the fact that uprooted trees lay in the same direction on all sides of its path, as reported by the same observer, would indicate that the storm was not a true tornado with rotary winds.

On the same date severe thunderstorms visited other points in southern Michigan, causing much damage to fruit trees and other property. At Cadillac one person was struck by lightning, and the power plant disabled at Flint. At Albion a tall chimney was blown down upon a church, causing \$1,000 damage but no loss of life. At Eaton Rapids and vicinity the wind caused damage to the extent of \$1,000.

CORRIGENDA.

In the Monthly Weather Review, March, 1909, p. 103, col. 2. line 20 from the bottom, for "Berlin. 1875" read "Berlin, 1879;" on p. 104, col. 1, last entry, for "Lavel" read "Laval," in col. 2, line 2 from the bottom, for "1830" read "1880;" on p. 107, col. 1, for "Houdailles" read "Houdaille;" on p. 109. col. 1, for "Greeley" read "Greely."

THE WEATHER OF THE MONTH.

By Mr. P. C. DAY, Acting Chief, Climatological Division.

PRESSURE AND WINDS.

The distribution of the mean atmospheric pressure for May, 1909, over the United States and Canada is graphically shown in Chart VI, and the average values and departures from the normal are shown for each station in Tables I and III.

Barometric depressions of wide extent, central in the upper and lower Mississippi valleys during the closing days of April, moved, the former into Canada and the latter to the Atlantic seaboard, during the 1st and 2d.

Considerable depressions also covered the eastern districts from the 8th to 10th and again from the 25th to 27th, aside from which no depression of marked extent crossed the United States, although the month was one of generally low barometric pressure from the Rocky Mountains eastward, the departure from the normal averaging about —.05 inch over nearly all the above-named region. From the Rocky Mountain districts westward to the Pacific the pressure was comparatively high, the departure above the normal increasing to from +.05 to +.07 inch on the coasts of Washington and Oregon.

From April to May the mean pressure decreased in all portions of the United States and Canada, the amount ranging uniformly from about - 08 to - 14 inch

uniformly from about -.08 to -.14 inch.

Southerly winds were dominant over the Gulf States and Mississippi Valley, while under the influence of comparatively high barometric pressure on the Pacific coast the winds over the Plateau and Rocky Mountain districts were northwesterly and westerly.

Compared with the normal there was a general increase in the wind velocity in practically all districts, a few points only in the southern portion of the great Plains and in the Middle Plateau region showing wind movement slightly less than the average.

TEMPERATURE.

Following the low areas covering the eastern districts at the beginning of the month an extensive area of cold weather overspread the central valleys, moving eastward and southward during the 2d and 3d. Freezing temperatures and frosts occurred from central Texas northeastward to the lower Lakes with snow in the upper Lake region. During the following few days the temperature rose rapidly over all eastern districts, but cool weather continued over the northwestern and Mountain

districts during most of the first decade. Cold weather again overspread the Mississippi Valley and eastern districts from the 10th to 13th, with frost in the Lake region, upper Ohio Valley, and in the interior and mountain portions of the Middle and North Atlantic States.

Generally cool weather was the rule during the 2d and 3d decades of the month, and as a whole the mean temperature for the month was below the normal in practically all portions of the United States, except over southern Florida and at a few points along the immediate Atlantic coast. The month was unusually cold over the Rocky Mountain and Plateau regions, and at its close the advance of the season had been seriously delayed thereby.

Maximum temperatures were not unusually high at any period during the month. They ranged from 80° to 90° over the eastern districts; from 90° to 97° over the central and southern portions of the Great Plains; and from 100° to 106° in the interior and lower valleys of Arizona and California.

Minimum temperatures were in many districts unusually low, especially over the regions west of the Rocky Mountains where severe frosts were of frequent occurrence, doing considerable damage to fruits, etc., but much less than would have been the case had not the development of vegetation been retarded by the continued cold weather preceding.

PRECIPITATION.

Rain in sufficient quantities and well distributed during the month occurred in all districts east of the Rocky Mountains, except over portions of the Middle Atlantic States, where there was a general lack of precipitation from the latter part of April until late in May. Over the greater part of Texas copious showers occurred, greatly relieving a serious drought that had prevailed over that State during the preceding months and which had given much concern to the cotton interests. West of the Rocky Mountains the month was one of generally deficient rainfall, especially so in portions of New Mexico, California, and the central portions of the Plateau region.

Rainfall was much above the normal amount over large sections of the middle Gulf States. In portions of central Mississippi and the adjoining districts of Alabama, Louisiana, and Arkansas, the precipitation during the latter part of the month was in some cases the heaviest recorded at the respective